

## Reps Panel Mulls Laws To Prioritize Local Refineries In Crude Oil Supply

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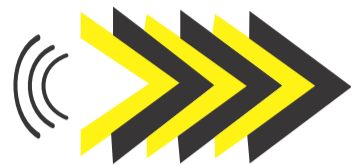
CONTINUES ON P2

## Nigeria's Oil Production Dropped By 2% To 1.39m bpd In September

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) says Nigeria's oil production output decreased to 1.39

million barrels per day from 1.43 million bpd (bpd)in September. in the previous month. According to the oil alliance, its figures were derived from

CONTINUES ON P3



# GLOBAL

REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

# TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global\_GTE Tues, October 14th 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

## Lagos To Begin \$3bn Green Line Rail Construction In December

The Lagos state government says construction of the green rail line project will commence in December. Oluwaseun Osiyemi, the

commissioner for transportation, spoke during an inspection tour in the Lekki area

alongside Tokunbo Wahab, the commissioner for environment and water

resources. According to a statement posted on the X account of the state

government on Monday, Wahab inspected the

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**FAAN Partners Paystack To Adopt Operation Go Cashless**

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**Rivers Gov Reaffirms Commitment To Port Harcourt Ring Road**

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**SEEPCO Converts 90% Of Vehicle Fleet To CNG**

P3



Mr Oluwaseun Osiyemi, Honorable Commissioner for Transportation

## NCAA Warns Airlines Against Delayed Ticket Refunds, Reaffirms 14-day Rule

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority has warned domestic airlines to stop informing passengers that ticket refunds take four weeks,

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CONTINUES ON P3

**NNPC Hikes Petrol Price To N992/Litre In Lagos**

P5

## Local Transport News

# Ekiti Sacks Contractor, To Re-award N1.8bn Road

### Culled

The Ekiti State Government has terminated the N1.8bn contract for the reconstruction of the Ifaki-Esure-Eyio-Awon Road over what it described as the contractor's non-performance.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Information, Taiwo Olatunbosun, said the decision was taken at the last State Executive Council meeting after repeated warnings to the contractor to mobilise to the site failed to yield results.

Olatunbosun, in a statement made available in Ado Ekiti on Saturday, said Governor Biodun Oyebanji's administration had also approved the re-award of the project to a "competent contractor who will ensure timely execution and adherence to specification."

"The termination of the contract became imperative following the contractor's failure to mobilise to the site despite several interventions after

receiving the award notification and submitting an acceptance letter," the statement read in part.

He explained that the move underscored the significance of the Ifaki-Esure-Eyio-Awon Road to the state's socio-economic development and the adverse impact of the delay on the government's commitment to road infrastructure.

"The termination and need to re-award the project became necessary due to

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Governor Oyebamiji

# FG Extends Keffi-Toto Road To 199km, Assures 50-Year Durability

### Culled

The Federal Government has approved the extension of the ongoing Keffi-Nasarawa-Toto Road project to Abaji, in the Federal Capital Territory, bringing the total length of the corridor to 199 kilometres.

The Minister of Works, David Umahi, disclosed this during an inspection tour of federal road projects in Nasarawa State on Saturday, accompanied by the state governor, Abdullahi Sule, and top officials of the ministry.

According to Umahi, President Bola Tinubu granted approval for the extension as part of efforts to improve interstate connectivity and ease vehicular movement between the North-Central states and the FCT.

"Mr President approved the extension of this road to Abaji because it's a critical economic corridor linking Nasarawa, Kogi and the FCT," Umahi said.

He explained that the project, which initially covered about 180 kilometres, would now stretch to 199 kilometres,

covering additional sections that are strategic for commerce and national integration.

The Minister revealed that the project would be executed in phases, with Phase One covering seven kilometres already having budgetary provision and currently under procurement. The second phase, covering the remaining 130 kilometres, will commence thereafter.

Umahi said the Federal Government was adopting a new and more durable construction technique expected to give the road a lifespan of at least 50 years.

He detailed that the method involves excavating failed sections, refilling with sharp sand and laterite, stabilising with between 2.5 and 3.5 per cent cement, and compacting with a stone base before traffic exposure to aid consolidation.

"For the shoulders, we will excavate 20 centimetres, compact, refill with a stone base in two layers of 10 centimetres each, and stabilise with 3.5 per cent cement," he explained.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

# Reps Panels Mulls Law To Prioritise Local Refineries In Crude Oil Supply

### Culled

The house of representatives committee on petroleum resources (downstream) says it plans to introduce new legislation that will classify refineries as strategic national assets, ensuring that they are protected and prioritised in crude allocation.

Ikenga Ugochinyere, chairman of the committee, spoke on Monday during the inaugural downstream week summit in Abuja, themed 'Celebrating Our Successes, Confronting Our Challenges and Finding Solutions for the Petroleum Downstream Sector'.

Ugochinyere said the proposed legislation is intended to boost domestic refining capacity, reduce dependence on fuel imports, and strengthen the naira through enhanced energy security.

"The Legislature has played its part by enacting the Petroleum Industry Act, giving us the legal backbone for lasting reform," he said.

"The executive has taken bold and decisive steps by removing long-



Crude oil barrels

standing subsidies and setting our nation once again on the path of efficiency and energy self-reliance.

"Today, Nigeria proudly boasts of expanding refining capacity and industrial growth across the energy value chain.

"The results are already visible. Indorama Petrochemicals has expanded its urea and fertiliser

capacity to 2.8 million metric tonnes per annum, advancing agriculture and gas utilisation.

"Waltersmith Modular Refinery in Imo State is expanding from 5,000 to 50,000 barrels per day, showing the promise of indigenous enterprise.

"OPAC Refinery in Delta, and similar projects in Edo and Rivers, continue to advance.

"And the Dangote Refinery, at 650,000 barrels per day, now stands as Africa's largest, redefining our refining landscape and boosting regional energy stability.

"These developments, supported by over \$13 billion in new upstream investments in 2024 alone, are clear signals of renewed investor confidence in Nigeria's energy sector.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



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20TH SEPTEMBER, 2025



# FUTD SPECIAL BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TRANSPORTATION, DAURA | VOL.2 NO.17

## POST UTME AND DIRECT ENTRY ONLINE SCREENING EXERCISE FOR THE 2025/2026 ACADEMIC SESSION

The Management of Federal University of Transportation, Daura wishes to inform all candidates who applied for admission into the University through the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) and scored 150 points and above with the relevant Five O'Level credits, and Direct Entry (DE) candidates that Online Screening Exercise for the **2025/2026 Academic Session** is scheduled to commence from **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2025**.

To register for the Post UTME Screening, candidates are required to log onto: <https://futd.edu.ng> to initiate the process using their UTME registration number as their **Username** and State of origin as their **Password**. Applicants are required to generate a Remita Retrieval Reference (RRR) Number and proceed to any Bank for payment or use their Debit Cards to pay the non-refundable screening fee of **Two Thousand Naira (N2,000.00)**.

### Steps to Follow:

- Access the portal via <https://futd.edu.ng>
- Make payment of N2,000.00 through Bank or REMITA
- Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the Screening Form
- Upload all required documents as specified and submit
- Print the acknowledgement slip and retain as evidence of successful registration

For inquiries or technical support, please contact the University ICT Directorate using the contact details provided on the portal or call **08032848658**.

*Signed:*  
Mal. Umar Faruk Bayu  
Registrar

**Local Transport News**

# SEEPCO Converts 90% Of Vehicle Fleet To CNG

*Culled*

Sterling Oil Exploration and Energy Production Company Limited says it has deepened its commitment to environmental sustainability, with over 90 per cent of its heavy and light vehicle fleet now running on compressed natural gas.

The company's transition to gas-powered operations earned it the Sustainability Company of the Year Award recently at the 2025 NAEC conference held in Lagos.

In recognition of its sustainability milestones, the company was honoured "for its continued commitment to recent sustainability initiatives."

SEEPCO was recognised for its impactful environmental programmes aimed at aligning operational performance with environmental responsibility.

The company stated that "among its initiatives is a clear emphasis on green energy transition, with over 90 per

cent of its heavy and light vehicle fleet now running on compressed natural gas."

It added that "in its eco-friendly marine operations, the major fleet of operational barges has been upgraded to double-hull structures, significantly enhancing protection for rivers and aquatic ecosystems."

SEEPCO further noted that it "has achieved a significant reduction in routine gas flaring by converting more waste gas into usable energy."

*Find Full Story In The Link*



SEEPCO

# Nigeria's Oil Production Dropped By 2% To 1.39m bpd In September

*Culled*

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) says Nigeria's oil production output decreased to 1.39 million barrels per day (bpd) in September.

In its monthly report on Monday, OPEC said the figure represents a 2.8 percent decline from 1.43 million bpd in the previous month.

According to the oil alliance, its figures were derived from direct communication with Nigerian authorities.

OPEC sources its crude oil output data from two channels: direct communication from member countries and secondary sources such as energy intelligence platforms.

At the current production level, the oil organisation reported that Nigeria has maintained its status as Africa's top oil producer, exceeding Libya's output of 1.36 million bpd.

Also, OPEC said the country's oil production in September fell below the country's assigned quota of 1.5 million

bpd — representing the first consecutive monthly decline.

The oil cartel said data from secondary sources estimated Nigeria's crude oil production at 1.51 million bpd in September — a 1.95 percent decline from the 1.54 million bpd recorded in August.

Citing secondary sources, the oil alliance said "total DoC crude oil production averaged 43.05 mb/d in September 2025, which is 630 tb/d higher, m-o-m".

On October 12, the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) said Nigeria's crude oil and condensate production fell to an average of 1.58 million bpd in the reviewed month.

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*Find Full Story In The Link*

# NCAA Warns Airlines Against Delayed Ticket Refunds, Reaffirms 14-Day Rule

*Culled*

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority has warned domestic airlines to stop informing passengers that ticket refunds take four weeks, saying such claims conflict with the regulator's rules, which set a 14-day refund deadline.

This is as the agency urged passengers who received four-week refund promises to forward the communications to NCAA officials for investigation

The NCAA's Director of Public Affairs & Consumer Protection, Michael Achimugu, made the admonition in a statement via X on Monday.

"Domestic airlines NEED to stop telling passengers that their refund process takes 4 weeks. There can't be two captains-in-command on an aircraft.

"The NCAA regulations are clear about the timeframe for ticket refunds, and it is 14 days. Part 19 of the NCAA Regulations 2023 remains in force. Operators cannot create a different rule in this regard.

"To all passengers: if you apply for a refund and an airline tells you that it



Achimugu

would take 4 weeks, kindly forward that communication to michael.achimugu@ncaa.gov.ng ifueko.abdulmalik@ncaa.gov.ng cpd@ncaa.gov.ng immediately."

He added, "We cannot all claim to be working for the improvement of the industry and be duplicating rules in a manner that undermines the Authority and is unfair to passengers."

The reminder comes amid mounting

passenger complaints about delayed refunds following cancellations and disruptions.

The NCAA has, in recent months, said it would sanction airlines that fail to process refunds within the timeframe set out in its regulations, describing timely refunds as a "low-hanging fruit" that airlines should prioritise.

This is as the agency urged passengers who received four-week refund

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*Find Full Story In The Link*

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**#SafetywithMOT**

**#SafetyFirst**

**#Staysafe**

## Local Transport News

# FAAN Partners Paystack To Adopt Operation Go Cashless

### Culled

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) has partnered with Paystack, a digital banking platform, to launch "Operation Go Cashless", a secure, contactless payment system across Nigeria's airports.

This was disclosed in a statement on the official X handle of the National Orientation Agency on Monday.

According to the statement, all payments at FAAN revenue points, including airport access gates, will go fully digital.

The statement reads, "No more cash collection at these points!

"This bold step is designed to modernise airport operations, boost efficiency, and align Nigeria's aviation sector with global digital trends. Passengers and airport users can now enjoy faster, safer, and more transparent services, while FAAN strengthens revenue assurance and enhances the overall travel experience.

"To make the transition smooth, FAAN has deployed trained brand ambassadors at airport gates, and

passengers can also obtain a Go Cashless Card at access points or online via <http://gocashless.faan.gov.ng>. The rollout begins at Lagos and Abuja airports before expanding nationwide."

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[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Mrs Olunmi Kuku

### Culled

The Nigerian National Petroleum Limited (NNPCL) has increased petrol price to N992 per litre from N865 per litre.

No official reason has been given for the increment as of the time of filing this report.

Across NNPC retail outlets visited by The Nation, attendants were seen adjusting their pumps to reflect the new price.

At NNPC filling station on Ogunusi road, Ojodu Berger, petrol attendants at the station said they were instructed to change the price to reflect the new rate N992 per litre.

However, checks at Ibafo along the Lagos /Ibadan expressway showed that NNPC outlets still displayed the old price of N875 per litre, although they were not selling to commuters.

Most of the NNPC stations were not dispensing fuel.

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[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

# FG Unveils Reconstructed Port Harcourt In Aba



President Tinubu

The Federal Government has commissioned the reconstruction 6.7-kilometre Port Harcourt Road in Aba, marking a major milestone in Abia State's infrastructure renewal and economic revitalisation efforts.

President Bola Tinubu, represented by the Minister of Works, Dave Umahi, described the completion of the project as a "miracle" achieved through collaboration between the Federal Government, the Abia State Government, and Julius Berger Nigeria Plc.

In a statement, it was noted that the President commended Abia State Governor, Dr Alex Otti, for the quality of work executed and his commitment to infrastructural renewal across

the State.

Tinubu said the successful delivery of the road demonstrated what could be achieved when good leadership, engineering expertise, and transparency converge.

He said, "The government and contractor's efforts have led to the miracle of transformation we are witnessing today, not only in Aba but across the entire state. This road is a symbol of renewed hope and the power of purposeful governance."

The President also praised Governor Otti for his dedication to infrastructure development and for positioning Abia as a model of progress and accountability.

Earlier in his remarks, the Director of Administration at Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Dr Abdulaziz Kaita, said the reconstructed Port Harcourt Road represented far more than asphalt and concrete, describing it as a "lifeline for commerce and connection."

He said, "This project links markets to manufacturers, neighbourhoods to opportunities, and Aba to the broader

economy of the South-East and the Niger Delta. For years, residents endured flooding, traffic gridlock, vehicle damage, and lost productive hours plying this route.

"The inauguration of this reconstructed road marks a shift from perennial disruption to reliable mobility, and from reactive palliatives to planned resilience."

Dr. Kaita explained that the contractor's brief from inception was clear, to deliver a durable roadway capable of withstanding heavy traffic and intense rainfall.

He added, "Our approach to this project rested on three non-negotiable pillars: resilient pavement structure, comprehensive stormwater management, and complete street safety and urban renewal elements.

"At Julius Berger, we believe projects of this scale succeed only when engineering meets empathy. We designed and built with the people in mind."

The 6.7km Port Harcourt Road reconstruction is part of the ongoing

efforts by the Federal Government to modernise infrastructure and boost economic activity across the country.

According to officials, the project will significantly reduce travel time and transportation costs for commuters and traders, enhance logistics efficiency, and stimulate economic growth in the region.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including the Deputy Governor of Abia State, Engineer Ikechukwu Emeto; the Secretary to the State Government, Professor Kenneth Kanu; members of the National Assembly; and top officials from the Ministry of Works.

Governor Otti, in his address, reaffirmed his administration's commitment to transforming Aba into a commercial hub befitting its historical status as the "Japan of Africa."

He said, "This project is a promise kept, a reflection of our belief that infrastructure drives prosperity. Aba deserves roads that can support its people, businesses, and industries, and that is exactly what we have delivered."

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- Ensure surface to be painted is free from dirt, grease & oil
- Rub down old gloss painted surfaces with abrasive paper.
- Stir content very well
- Add little quantity of thinner if necessary
- Apply with brush or roller
- Close firmly when not in use.

**DIRECTION FOR USE:**

- Mix paints in well-ventilated areas
- Spray paint outdoors or in special booths
- Never smoke or have any source of fire in the vicinity
- Wear a respirator or paint mask
- Avoid electrocution!



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**EMULSION**

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**QUALITY EMULSION**

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...quality speaks

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**QUALITY EMULSION**

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# Boeing Delays Stall Ethiopian Airlines Expansion Plans

*Culled*

Aircraft delivery delays at Boeing are holding back Ethiopian Airlines' growth plans, even as Africa's largest carrier prepares for a major airport expansion and continued passenger growth, Group CEO Mesfin Tasew told Bloomberg.

The airline has more than 100 aircraft on order from Boeing, but slower-than-expected deliveries have created a fleet shortage that could persist for up to two years, he said. "We still have a shortage compared to our longer-term plan," he said. "This will continue, maybe for the coming two years."

Ethiopian Airlines expects widebody aircraft from both Boeing and Airbus to begin arriving "in large numbers" after that period, allowing it to realign with its growth strategy. The carrier has ordered at least eight B777X (B777-9s), now slated to enter service in 2027 instead



of next year, with deliveries expected until 2030.

While narrowbody deliveries remain on schedule, the delays could force Ethiopian

Airlines, like other global carriers dependent on Boeing, to adjust route expansion plans or extend the lifespan of older jets. Despite the setbacks, the airline

forecasts passenger growth between 12% and 15% this year.

"We're opening new routes. We're increasing frequencies. As a result of this, we expect to grow

in terms of passenger numbers at a double-digit rate. This will continue," he assured. "Now we have a shortage of aircraft; otherwise, we would have grown even

faster than 15%."

In terms of network expansion, the airline will be targeting all continents, Mesfin said. In Africa, it is expanding its reach from primary capitals to secondary cities. At the same time, it will continue to expand into Asia and China, while adding more destinations in Europe and North America.

Mesfin had already raised concerns about aircraft shortages in June, when he told ch-aviation that continued delivery delays into next year could force a revision of interim growth projections. "It will probably not affect our Vision 2035, but in the interim, growth may be slower before accelerating faster," he said.

In June, in addition to the B777-9 delay, outstanding orders for eleven A350-900s and eleven B787-9s were delayed to 2028, a year later than initially expected.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

*Culled*

Despite ongoing reforms and efforts to construct new ports and rehabilitate existing ones, world powers, including the United States and Russia, are actively seeking to secure access to the Port of Lomé in Togo which has emerged as a key maritime hub in West Africa.

The increase in volume of trade between Asia and West Africa has seen Lomé port transform into a key regional container port.

Major ocean carriers, specifically MSC, have responded by redeploying ultra-large container vessels

## US, Russia Ditch Nigerian Ports, Seeks Access To Togo Ports

(ULCVs) to the route.

This has come as a major boost for liner connectivity of West African ports including Lomé.

In view of these trade advantages, the U.S has pledged to expand its African market access through Lomé port.

Last week, the U.S Embassy in Lomé, led by the Chargé d'Affaires, Richard C. Michaels, conducted a tour of the port facility.

The delegation also held a meeting with the management of Lomé Container Terminal, LCT, to explore commercial opportunities for U.S businesses.

"With advanced deep-water capabilities, cutting-edge equipment, and an annual throughput exceeding 30 million tons, Lomé offers U.S businesses unmatched access to African markets.

"Ongoing infrastructure expansion, including a dry-port and industrial zone, further enhances the port's role as a growing gateway," commented U.S Embassy in Togo.

The port tour followed shortly after U.S President, Donald Trump, met five African

leaders in Washington.

The African leaders were largely from countries in West Africa, including Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania and Senegal.

The meeting with Trump concentrated on trade opportunities for both sides, at a time the U.S government is cutting aid in Africa and other regions.

Meanwhile, Russia has ratified its military cooperation agreement with Togo, which was initially signed early this year.

As per the agreement, Russia and Togo will jointly hold military exercises, training exchanges and weapons and military equipment support.

Notably, the agreement also covers support in hydrography, navigation and combating piracy.

According to some observers, the agreement will give Russia unfettered access to Togo's strategic seaport of Lomé. Visit by Russian military ships to ports in Togo is covered by the cooperation.

"Togo is considered the most organised and equipped in Tropical Africa. For example, the busiest seaport in West Africa is located on its territory," said Vladimir Gruzdev, a member of the Russian Government Commission on Legislative Activity, which drafted the ratification law of the defence.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

**PUBLISHER**  
Greatpen Global Media Limited  
(RC SCUML RC)

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
Olorundare Animola

**ADMIN ACCOUNT HEAD**  
Funmilola Olowookere

**HEAD GRAPHICS**  
Michael Olamide

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Ayomide Tiwatayo

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## General News

# Rewane Projects Nigeria's Inflation Will Fall To 18% In November

**Culled:** Nigeria's inflation rate, which dropped to 20.12 per cent in August 2025, is projected to decline further to 18 per cent in November, according to the Chief Executive Officer of Financial Derivatives Company, Bismarck Rewane.

Speaking at the October edition of the Lagos Business School (LBS) breakfast session, Rewane attributed the anticipated drop to increased imports aimed at meeting December demand, noting that Nigeria's economic recovery remains strong.

He described the recovery as "authentic," citing the nation's real GDP growth of 4.23 per cent in Q2 2025 — the highest in four years since Q2 2021, when it grew by 5.01 per cent.

Rewane, however, warned that a ceasefire in Gaza could lower global oil prices, potentially worsening Nigeria's fiscal deficit.

He said, "At \$60 per barrel, Nigeria's fiscal deficit could climb towards 4.5–5 per cent of GDP."

Nigeria's 2025 budget was benchmarked at \$75 per barrel with a crude oil production target of 2.06 million barrels per day. As of Monday, October 13, crude oil



Rewane

traded at \$63.60 per barrel, while the country's output stood at 1.581 million barrels per day.

Data from the Debt Management Office (DMO) show that Nigeria's total public debt rose to N152.40 trillion (\$99.66 billion) as of June 30, 2025, an increase of N3.01 trillion from the N149.39 trillion (\$97.24 billion) recorded in March.

The country spent \$932.1 million and N1.7 trillion on external and domestic debt

servicing respectively in Q2 2025.

Rewane noted that out of 46 tracked economic activities, 32 expanded, 10 slowed, and four contracted. Industry grew by 7.45 per cent, services by 3.94 per cent, and agriculture by 2.82 per cent.

On monetary policy, he said the Central Bank of Nigeria's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) would likely adopt a cautious approach in November,

predicting a modest 25 basis point cut in the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) to 26.75 per cent per annum to sustain disinflation.

He added that the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) of 75 per cent on non-TSA funds would tighten liquidity in the money market, but a lower MPR could reduce the federal and state governments' debt service burden by about N1.5 trillion in 2026.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# UNICEF Advocates Girl Child Protection

**Culled:**

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called for the protection of girls in Nigeria and an end to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), a practice that infringes on the rights of girls and interferes with their reproductive wellbeing.

Chief of UNICEF Lagos Field Office, Celine Lafoucriere, made the call at a two day Media Dialogue in support of advocacy to end FGM in Nigeria.

The dialogue was organised by Oyo State Ministry of Information and Orientation in collaboration with UNICEF.

According to Lafoucriere, "over 20 million women and girls in Nigeria are affected by Female Genital Mutilation, most of whom were cut when they had no voice or opinion."

She noted that, "Most of them were cut before their fifth birthday, when they couldn't consent, resist or even understand what was happening."

Lafoucriere stated that FGM is a human rights challenge and a violation of the rights of girls, which must be speedily brought to an end in Nigeria.

She explained that available statistics rank Nigeria among the most FGM endemic countries globally, a situation which calls for urgent stakeholders' intervention.

"This is a huge number that we cannot be blind or deaf to," Lafoucriere said.

The UNICEF Chief emphasised that in spite of legislations banning the practice and stipulating penalties for offenders, FGM still persists in communities across the country.

Lafoucriere noted that the practice is fueled by myths and traditions that must be recognised as harmful, adding that no culture or custom should ever come at the expense of girls' health, rights or future.

She called for collaborative action to double down on the myths fuelling FGM and end it once and for all.

"The good news is that change can happen through collaboration like the movement and initiative led by the federal government in collaboration

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Nigerian Arrested In India With Cocaine Worth N861.7m



A man in handcuffs

**Culled:** The Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC) of the Mumbai Police in India has arrested a Nigerian national following the seizure of 523 grams of cocaine valued at approximately ₹5.23 crore (worth about N861,705,887.60) during an early morning operation on Saturday. According to https://www.lokmatimes.com police sources said the operation was conducted at 4:15 a.m. near Diamond Ayva Hostel on Hansmukh Road, Vakola,

after a patrol team noticed a man loitering suspiciously on the pavement.

Officers reportedly invited independent witnesses to the scene before carrying out a search.

A white nylon bag was allegedly found in the suspect's possession, which contained a transparent plastic pouch holding the cocaine. A senior officer confirmed that a field test using a chemical detection kit turned light blue, indicating the substance was cocaine.

The suspect, identified as 30-year-old Nsude Chimaobi Igwesi, was subsequently taken into custody. A formal complaint was filed by Police Constable Amol Salunkhe, and the Bandra Unit of the ANC registered a case under

Sections 8(c) and 21(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

In a post on X at the weekend, India's largest Independent News Agency, IANS, said, "Mumbai Crime Branch's Anti-Narcotics Bandra unit arrested Nigerian national Nsude Chimaobi Igwesi (30) from Santacruz-Vakola, seizing 523 grams of cocaine worth ₹5.23 crore.

The suspect was spotted during patrolling, and tests confirmed the substance as cocaine. A case under the NDPS Act has been registered, and investigations are ongoing to trace the drug's source and intended recipients: Mumbai Crime Branch."

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Bagudu

# Nigeria Secures 190m Euros Funding For Agricultural Development

*Culled:* Nigeria's agricultural sector is set for a major financing boost as the European Union has approved a €190 million (about N320.5bn) credit line to expand lending to farmers and agribusinesses through Nigerian commercial banks and development finance institutions. The facility, provided by the European Investment Bank, was announced during a bilateral meeting between senior EIB executives and a delegation from the Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning on the sidelines of the Global Gateway Forum held recently in Brussels, Belgium.

A statement issued on Monday by the Minister of Budget and Economic Planning's Special Adviser on Media, Bolaji Adeniyi, confirmed the development.

Speaking at the session, the EIB's Director for International Partnerships, Thourayya Tricki, said the initiative underscores the EU's commitment to supporting Nigeria's economic diversification drive, particularly through climate-smart agriculture and value-chain development.

"This credit line is part of our continued effort to strengthen Nigeria's agricultural value chains, especially in cocoa and dairy.

"The investment package will not only expand access to finance but also promote sustainability and competitiveness in Nigeria's agri-food products," Tricki said.

Tricki, who was accompanied by the EIB's Head of Sub-Saharan Africa Relations, Diedrick Zambon, explained that the facility includes both credit and technical assistance components targeted at development finance institutions and commercial banks.

The goal, she said, is to "de-risk agricultural lending and build institutional capacity for long-term financing in the sector."

Nigeria already benefits from several EU-supported programmes, including an €18 million technical assistance grant to strengthen the local regulatory framework for vaccine production, and a €50 million credit facility to deepen access to finance in the pharmaceutical industry.

Representing Nigeria, Special Assistant to the Minister of Budget and Economic Planning, Bolaji Onalaja, and the EU Unit Focal Officer, Benjamin Galadima, reaffirmed the country's commitment to implementing reforms under President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda to attract sustainable investments.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Nigeria Records Major Security Gains In September - Onilu

The Director-General of the National Orientation Agency (NOA), Mallam Lanre Issa-Onilu, has announced that Nigeria's security agencies recorded significant progress in the fight against insecurity in September 2025.

Speaking at the Monthly Joint Security Press Briefing for October 2025 in Abuja, Issa-Onilu said security agencies demonstrated improved coordination and

proactiveness, shifting from reactive responses to preventive operations. The briefing, organized by the NOA in collaboration with security and regulatory agencies, aims to provide a cohesive, data-driven account of Nigeria's security efforts.

Issa-Onilu highlighted that the Nigerian Army conducted 196 operations nationwide in September, neutralizing terrorists, rescuing kidnapped victims, and dismantling

illegal arms networks.

"This month, intelligence services moved more decisively from response to prevention," he said. "By intercepting arms couriers across Niger, Plateau, Kaduna, Ekiti, Ebonyi, and Katsina before weapons could reach terror cells, the intelligence community demonstrated maturity in proactive surveillance. Smugglers using hidden compartments and disguised consignments were

apprehended through real-time tracking, community intelligence tips, and sophisticated profiling."

He further disclosed that 76 hostages were rescued in Katsina, while 30 terrorists surrendered with their families in Borno State, adding that the Armed Forces effectively combined precision operations with humanitarian safeguarding through better logistics and local collaboration.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

## DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

1. African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP) - This will be an online Academy for the training of Driving School Instructors and Road Safety professionals.
2. Africa Road Transport Safety Summit and Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO) - The largest gathering of Researchers and Industry Leaders in Road Transport Safety featuring exhibitions of technology devices and Innovations.
3. Africa Safe School Volunteer Project (ASSVP) - A social responsibility project that members of DSSAA will get directly involved in their various countries which includes volunteering to control traffic and help Children cross the Road during school hours in schools, funding installation of STOP Road signs and marking of zebra crossings at school Intersections, as well as carrying out the training of children on Road Safety practices in schools.
4. Africa Road Safety Partnerships and Research board (ARSPARB)- A hub for the advancement of partnerships with development agencies, National Governments and corporations as well as a Research Faculty for Road Safety Research Projects.

## About DSSAA

Driving Schools and Safety Alliance Africa - DSSAA is Africa's premier Professional Association of Driving School Owners, Instructors, Driver Assessors and Road Safety professionals.

It is registered in the Gambia and UK with National offices in all the Capital cities in Africa.

DSSAA aims to bring all the critical stakeholders together to build the capacity of Driving School operators and support Road Safety through advocacy, public education, lobbying, fund raising, training and certification.

We are the promoters of various Road Transport Safety initiatives and programmes among which are the African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP), Africa Road Transport Safety Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO), Africa Safe school volunteer project (ASSVP) and the Africa Road Safety Partnership and Research board (ARSPARB) domiciled in our Overseas Office in Bournemouth United Kingdom.

Membership is open to Road Safety advocates all over the world.

# DSSAA

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



### GRANTS

There are available grants from National Governments, multinational corporations and NGOS.

The leadership of DSSAA is committed to pursuing these grants at the African Union Secretariat, Ecowas NGO Roundtable and other multilateral Initiatives and making them available to Members only.

### CAPACITY DEV.

Membership gives you access to our robust learning portal where you get latest Road Safety Research, scholarship opportunities and internships. Admission to ADPRIP is at a discounted rate. Our interfaces with Government authorities gives you Industry advantages.

### NETWORKING

Your participation in our community platforms opens up new business relationship opportunities with operators, Regulators, Vendors, Researchers and Investors across the globe as membership is open worldwide.

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### PROFILE/LEVERAGE

You are entitled to use DSSAA Member logo on your website, office branding, Letterhead and Business Cards.

Our community development projects such as the Safe School Volunteer Project as well as our Road Safety advocacy activities creates a positive brand footprint for all our Members and Affiliates. Membership of DSSAA elevates your Corporate ethical persona.

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